

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Fourpence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 2069, November 15, 1958

SHE WAS A NURSE IN NAZARETH

**Hospital where visitors sometimes
stay all day and all night**

The writer of this article is a New Zealand girl who qualified as a State Registered Nurse and then made up her mind to use her certificate as a passport to take her round the world, and first of all to various London hospitals. Since then she has nursed in many other lands—in Israel, Jordan and the Lebanon, in India, Australia, and Canada. Each of these spells of duty was a great experience, but the one she remembers most of all was her first post in a foreign land, in the Biblical city of Nazareth.

NEVER shall I forget (she writes) those months I spent in Israel, in a mission hospital at Nazareth. It was an 80-bed hospital with an extensive out-patients' department. There were men's, women's, and children's wards, an operating theatre, an X-ray department, and a laboratory. Despite all this, conditions were very different from those in the modern London hospitals I had known!

There was no running hot water in the whole hospital and, at times, no running water at all. In each ward there was a small stove, such as campers use, and on this I would heat what water I needed for my work. These same stoves were used for sterilising all the things used in the operating theatre.

I was put in charge of the women's ward. Not one of the patients could speak any English, but, with the aid of the young Arab nurses, I found I could manage surprisingly well.

The Arab girls, whose ages ranged 15 to 20, came mostly from outlying villages around Nazareth.

When they first joined the staff they learned to speak English and, after three years of extensive study, passed out with a certificate and medal as fully qualified nurses. Many of them return to their own villages to render real aid only made possible by this hospital training and knowledge. Some go on to attend further specialised studies at the American University at Beirut, in Lebanon.

GREAT CONFIDENCE

I never failed to be amazed at the confidence shown by those young girls. Without a qualm, they would attend to any wounds, would help with any major emergency, and even assist with anaesthetics during an operation.

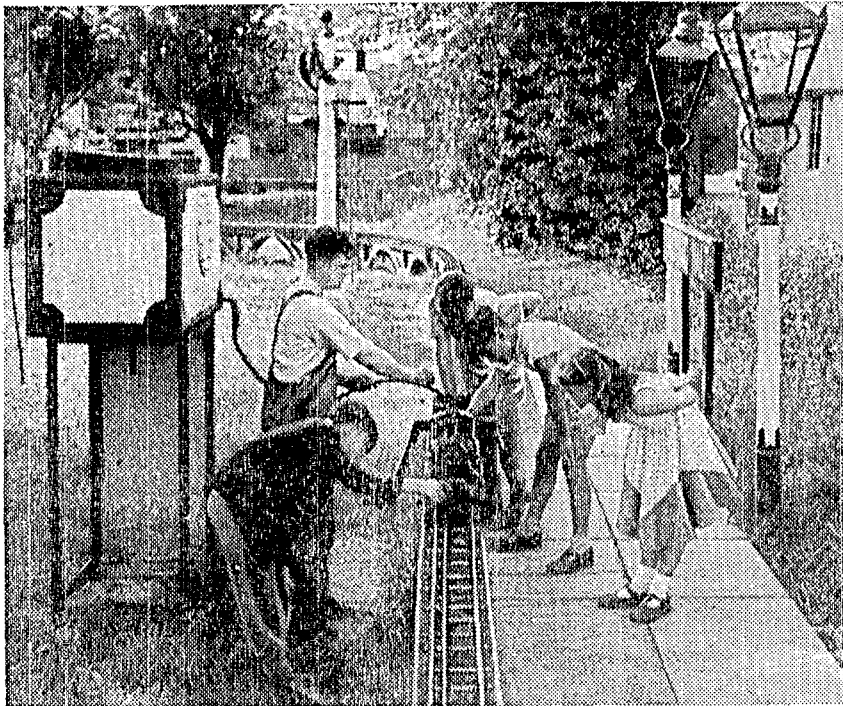
Most of the patients had never seen a bed before—certainly not sheets or pyjamas or nightgowns. Going on duty in the morning I would sometimes find a patient sleeping on the floor beneath the bed. They were not used to such luxury as a mattress in the tents where they lived!

The most troublesome part of the work was dealing with visitors. For instance, to explain visiting hours to them was pointless. They arrived first thing in the morning and, if the front door was locked, would sneak around to the back, or crawl through an open window. And then they would stay all day.

MISUNDERSTANDING

When we brought a patient back from the operating theatre on the trolley, the relatives would stand around, usually weeping and wailing. They had never seen someone under an anaesthetic before and they thought the person to be dead! When we managed to get the trolley into the ward, other visitors would join us—out of curiosity; and they usually attempted to help lift the patient into bed, getting horribly in the way while doing so.

Mothers brought their babies and fed them while sitting on the floor. Whole families would come and stay the day, preparing and eating their meals by the bedside. What a mess they always left!



*All eyes on
the little
loco*

The Harlington (Middlesex) Locomotive Society has a splendid model railway with a quarter of a mile of track, a station and a brick viaduct of 130 arches. Above is a club locomotive built by the members, taking in water under the expert hand of an apprentice railway fitter.

EMERGENCY TRUNK CALL

A game warden on patrol recently in the Queen Elizabeth National Park, Uganda, came across a mother elephant trying to get her newly-born baby up a bank and across a road. Then the mother called for help and three more elephants quickly broke cover and joined her. They manoeuvred the young one up the bank and on to the road by putting their trunks under his rear.

When he was on the road they formed up on either side and escorted him across. Once on the far side the three rescuers disappeared, leaving mother in charge.

But sometimes, when we had very sick people in, especially children, the relatives would have permission to stay. They would borrow blankets and then curl up on a stool, or on the floor, and sleep there all night!

The visitors were always kind to the sick people, sometimes too kind. They would do anything they thought the patients wanted, even if it did not agree with the treatment we were giving them. This happened particularly in the case of people who were on special diets.

Of course, there were a few sad cases, but there were also a great many remarkable recoveries. In spite of difficult conditions, there is a tremendous amount of rewarding work going on in all the out-of-the-way hospitals.

In many ways I was sorry to leave; the work was intensely interesting and sometimes exciting.

My work permit expired at the end of six months, just after Christmas—and where better could I have spent Christmas than in a hospital in Nazareth, the home of Jesus, the Great Healer!

On horseback to New Zealand

One way of visiting relatives in New Zealand is to ride there on horseback—and that is just what Wing Commander A. N. Jones of Weybridge intends to do. He has started on a 14,500-mile ride with two horses, Jumbo and Chiko, which he has been training for months for the trip. With their aid he plans to make his way across Europe, and then through Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Ceylon, and Australia.

He will camp out on the way, and expects to reach New Zealand, the land of his birth, in about 18 months' time.

Because Jumbo and Chiko will have to pass many customs barriers, documents for them have been provided by the Automobile Association, together with GB plates to hang from their saddles. The documents, called carnets, are the same as those issued for cars making overseas tours, but in place of such details as "make of car, engine number," and so on, the horses' names, age, weight, height, and value are given.

Seven-year-old Jumbo is 15 hands high and dapple grey; six-year-old Chiko is 14 hands and skewbald.

SCHOOLDOG

In the South African town of East London lives a dog, a black and white collie, who is quite a well-known character. His name is Happy—and he is happiest when at school.

He belongs to Mr. and Mrs. Smale and his yearning for a school life started as a puppy, when he used to follow John Smale to college. "A college life for me," decided Happy, and so two years ago he moved in as an unofficial but welcome boarder.

He spends the morning quietly in the classrooms, the afternoon on the playing fields, and the night contentedly curled up at the top of the boarding house stairs. He also takes part in the school sports.

But when the boys go home for the holidays, Happy goes too. He thoroughly enjoys himself in the family circle, even going to church with them every Sunday—and also to the cinema. When the holidays are over, however, he wastes no time in bounding back to college, happy as Happy can be.

Ball girl



Margaret Hapgood, student at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, exercises with the medicine ball as part of her training. Her father is Eddie Hapgood, former star of Arsenal and England.

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Big and little



The Chihuahua weighs only 4½ lb. and finds plenty of room between the paws of Judy, the Great Dane, who weighs 126 lb. Both champions, the dogs have won over 30 prizes between them.

HANDLING THE NEW PENSIONS BILL

By the CN Parliamentary Correspondent

THE Government has decided to bring in its new Pensions Bill early next year. The Bill was one of 14 measures listed in the Queen's Speech last month. Why should it not be dealt with at once?

At present the Bill is in draft, or outline. It provides for a State Pensions scheme based on the principle that those who contribute most, broadly speaking, get the highest pensions on retirement.

One purpose of the Bill is to put on a sounder footing the National Insurance Fund, into which contributions are paid from our wages and salaries and from which pensions are paid out when, as "old folk", we eventually qualify for them.

For these reasons the Bill is controversial. Some people—but not many—are content with the present scheme. There is also an alternative scheme drawn up by the Labour Party.

Wisely, therefore, the Conservative Government is not introducing its Bill until the New Year so that it can take note of public and private criticism in the next month or so.

PROPOSING IMPROVEMENTS

This delay brings up an important point. For it is already clear that when the Bill comes up the Labour Party will propose improvements in the Government scheme instead of simply opposing it. The Opposition's plan cannot be carried into law instead of the Government's, because public opinion, as expressed at the last General Election, has given the Government the right to govern and make laws. The Opposition has not the constitutional right to govern; only the right to criticise, influence, or modify Government decisions and policy.

In the next couple of months we may see this influence at work on the Pensions Bill. It is not impossible that when it comes to be debated, the Opposition may suggest changes and that these changes will be accepted by the Government.

On the other hand, Her Majesty's Opposition is justified in opposing by every legitimate Parliamentary device a Bill it does not like. There can be time-wasting speeches which, although

they will not eventually stop a Bill going through, can upset the Government's timetable, which is delicately balanced. Obstruction by an Opposition "jams the gears" of a Government's programme.

There is nothing illegal about obstruction provided the means used are "in order"—that is, within the orders laid down by Parliament for the proper conduct of debates.

On the Pensions and other opposed Bills we may, as usual, expect a mixture of vigorous condemnation and constructive criticism by the Opposition. This always has been so, whatever party forms the Opposition of the day.

In wishing to improve their opponents' measure an Opposition takes the broad view of the national interest. It recognises that, while its own plans may be better, there is no guarantee that it will become the Government in time to put them through.

Therefore it takes the view that, while opposed to the *principle* of a Bill, it will help to alter some details.

FLOODLIT PASSAGE

The Act which ultimately emerges from a Bill will not, of course, suit everyone. But during its passage it will have been floodlit by members expressing their different opinions. And in time, opportunity may occur to bring in a new and better Bill.

Thus our Parliamentary system, like its rules, is rooted in workaday commonsense. And our democracy, unlike others in a large part of the world, always has a remedy. If it does not like a Government and its Bills it can always change the Government by the simple—and peaceful—method of voting at an election.

Many Happy Returns



The Prince of Wales, who celebrates his tenth birthday on Friday, November 14.

He has climbed 1000 towers

Climbing the towers of cathedrals, churches, and other buildings to study the works of big clocks is the unusual hobby of Mr. T. R. Robinson, clockmaker and Fellow of the British Horological Institute. Large tower clocks have fascinated him ever since he was a schoolboy.

On arrival in a town or village he has not visited before, the first thing he does is to ask permission to see the clock of the church or town hall. And recently at Chelsea he climbed his 1000th tower.

Among the many famous clocks he has seen during his travels are those of the Houses of Parliament, St. Paul's Cathedral, and the huge Shell-Mex and B.O.A.C. buildings. He has also seen most of the clocks in English cathedrals and abbey churches; and the rest of his large total is made up from town and village churches in almost every county.

ENGLAND'S OLDEST CLOCK

He has made some interesting discoveries. The most important was the ancient clock of Salisbury Cathedral, which proved to be the oldest known to exist in England. It was made in 1386, and it had worked for 498 years before being replaced. After getting it exhibited in the cathedral, Mr. Robinson supervised repairs, and the old clock is now as good as new.

At Tisbury, Gloucestershire, Mr. Robinson found a clock made by the local wheelwright from odds and ends, including wheels from a bean drill, a cream separator and a winnowing machine, a bicycle pedal, and part of a scythe.

With the store of knowledge he has gained, Mr. Robinson is often asked to advise when new clocks are being installed or old ones restored. He has broadcast many times on his favourite subject.

"I think there are more than 15,000 large clocks in the British Isles—and lots more abroad," he says, so he still has plenty of scope for further study.

News from Everywhere

The Canadian Government hopes to teach the Dominion's 9000 Eskimos to read and write in a new language developed from local dialects.

One thousand television sets are being bought in Australia every day.

The island of Rum, one of the Inner Hebrides, was bought last year by the Nature Conservancy. It has become over-stocked with red deer and sheep, and the Conservancy will now investigate ways of restoring the woodlands and improving the soil.

A homing pigeon recently flew into a Manchester office, landed on a ledger, and then went into a desk's pigeon-hole!

A Ministry of Health report states that it costs £22 6s. 2d. to keep a patient in hospital for a week.

Kidderminster's Town Hall is to have a stained-glass window illustrating everyday life in the town. It will picture a mayor, town clerk, postman, weaver, a young mother with children, a bus conductress, and policemen.

THEY SAY . . .

THE present £5 notes get dirty too easily. They should be made of washable plastic.

Suggestion made to the Derbyshire Federation of Women's Institutes

The Shakespeare Memorial Theatre Company are leaving for Russia at the end of this month. They are to visit Moscow and Leningrad, where they will give performances of Romeo and Juliet.

QUEEN'S MESSAGE

The Queen is again to broadcast a Christmas message to the Commonwealth, and the broadcast is also to be televised.

Plans for a big hotel at London Airport are now being considered. It would be called Skyport Hotel.

Men of the minesweeper H.M.S. Dartington have invited a boy from the Devon village of Dartington to spend a holiday on board the ship in the Mediterranean.

Pope John XXIII



The new Pope, John XXIII, formerly Cardinal Roncalli, Patriarch of Venice, was elected on October 28. Born 76 years ago, the son of an Italian peasant, he is the 262nd Pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church. The last Pope to bear the name John reigned over 600 years ago.

Out and About

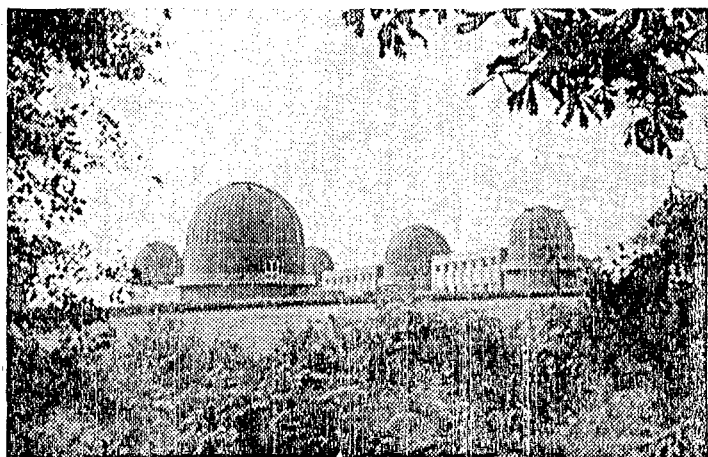
It was getting dark. A big flock of fieldfares that might have arrived only a day or two earlier for their winter stay had taken up our attention, hedge-hopping and quartering the ploughed fields. In these they should have found worms and snails, but there were plenty of berries also in the hedges. Finally they had all moved away and we noticed only the evening chill, the ghostly pale mist.

A sound that in daytime is often missed came shrill in the dusk from the tiniest of the mammals in this country, a shrew, probably the Common Shrew. We heard it squeal several times under a

hedge. Then it seemed to go into a grass field. It could have been the so-called Lesser Shrew, which is not only our smallest mammal, but probably the smallest mammal in the world.

However small, the shrews can be not only noisy but tremendously active. They have to be, because of their need to eat almost round the clock to live, rather like the moles. This means hunting for the worms and slugs they like in daylight as well as in the dusk and dark, which they prefer. But as they move about in the dimness, owls, often hunting in couples, catch them in great numbers.

C. D. D.



OUR HOMELAND

The Royal Observatory at Herstmonceux, which Prince Philip is to visit on Friday

A Christmas message from Mars

Rolinx

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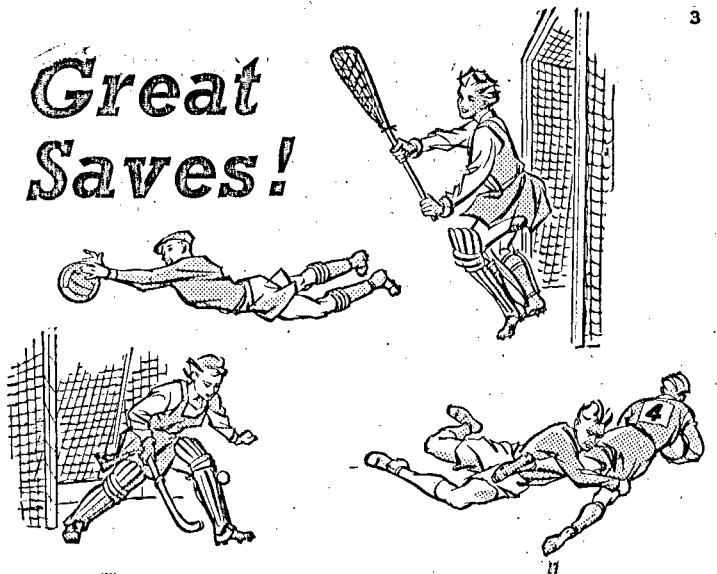
A NAME TO REMEMBER



Little llama did not like water

When Victoria, a baby llama at Whipsnade, was taken for its first paddle in the flamingo pond it objected strongly. But it soon stopped worrying about wet feet and settled down to enjoy the water.

Great Saves!



Comfort down below

The long-range submarine Rorqual, just commissioned at Barrow-in-Furness, is designed to keep her crew comfortable especially during the long periods for which she can stay submerged.

Her six officers and 64 ratings have bunks with foam latex mattresses and strip lighting, and there is a cinema projector and a tape recorder. She is, of course, air-conditioned, has apparatus to distil fresh water from sea water, and ample stowage space.

Found in the cupboard

Some fascinating finds have come to light in an overhaul of the store cupboards of the Royal Institution in London.

There are microfilms used in the pigeon post to and from besieged Paris in 1870; an Edison phonograph of the original type demonstrated on the premises in 1878; and a gas bracket of 1865.

NEW TOWN IN AUSTRALIA

A new town has sprung up in a remote corner of north-west Queensland. It is close to Australia's richest uranium mine, the Mary Kathleen, recently opened by Prime Minister Menzies.

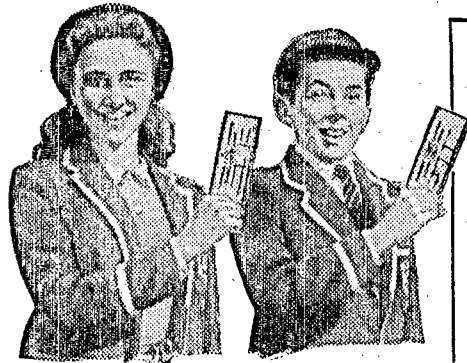
Built in two years, the new town has 221 houses already occupied by mineworkers and their families—about a thousand men, women, and children in all. These people are new settlers in the wilds of Australia, but they face none of the primitive conditions of the early settlers. In fact, they have a hospital, a school, two churches, a bank, post office, fire station, shops, and fine amenities for sports, including a swimming pool. An adequate water supply has been ensured by damming a nearby river. Already some of the householders have laid out lawns, and a large market garden and orchard have been established.

It will be a prosperous town, too, for the Mary Kathleen mine is estimated to contain £40,000,000-worth of uranium oxide.

Where Cavaliers and Roundheads fought

A beautiful Tudor manor house in Shropshire, Benthall Hall, has been given to the National Trust by two members of the Benthall family, which dates back to the eleventh century.

Standing 400 feet above the Severn, Benthall Hall was fortified for King Charles during the Civil War by Captain Lawrence Benthall, who in 1643 led a successful attack on a party of plunderers in the neighbourhood. But the house was afterwards captured by the Parliamentary forces, and held to the end of war.



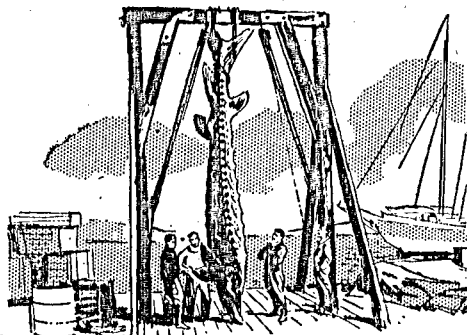
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SAVERS
ALWAYS!**

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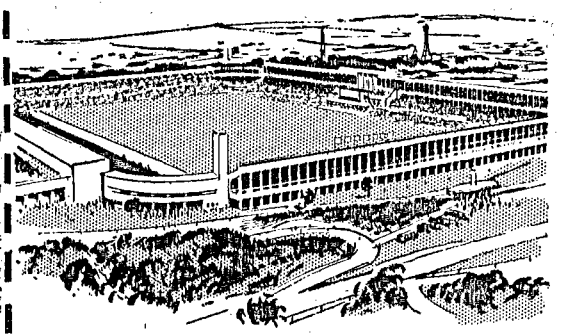
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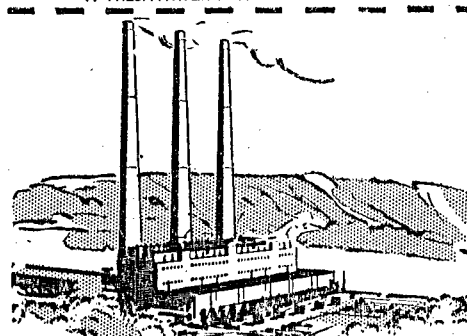
WHAT IS THE BIGGEST...?



1. FRESHWATER FISH IN THE WORLD?



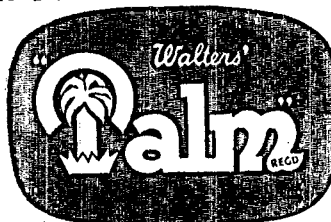
2. FOOTBALL STADIUM IN THE WORLD?



3. CHIMNEY IN THE WORLD?

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1. Russian Sturgeon, 26 feet long, weighed 1.44 tons.
2. Stachow Stadium, Prague, 240,000 capacity.
3. Ohio Electric Corporation, Madison, Indiana. Overall 707 feet, 682 feet above ground.

STAMP NEWS



THIS jolly stamp is one of five due to be issued in Holland on November 17. The set shows boys and girls having the time of their lives at various games and pastimes. Each stamp carries a surcharge to be devoted to children's charities.

AUSTRALIA has two new Christmas stamps with a picture of the Nativity.

A PORTRAIT of Abraham Lincoln without his beard will appear on a United States stamp to be issued next February.

Book Tokens for CN readers

Half-guinea Book Tokens have been awarded to these winners of CN Competition No. 10: Marie Allison, Bournemouth; Ivan Anderson, Carnoustie; Graham Atha, Leeds; Jean Baker, Bognor Regis; Phillip Barnes, Preston; Peter Burborough, Tipton; Noel Cream, Manchester; Barbara Cross, Monifieth; David Evans, Greenford; Leslie Glass, South Shields; Wendy Gough, Lewes; Angela Hill, London, N.21; Susan Jelfs, Birmingham; Patsy Kokta, Kettering; Vivienne Lindfield, Horem; Edwin Mander, Birmingham; Ann Moore, Selston; Marian Plane, North Wembley; Gordon Pollock, Ilford; and Brenda Winterbottom, Stanmore.

HYMN FOR ST EDMUND

A Latin hymn has been found among the archives at King Edward VI Grammar School, Bury St. Edmunds. It was probably last sung by the monks nearly 500 years ago in the great Abbey there. Now it has been translated into English and the boys of the school will probably sing it on St. Edmund's Day, November 20.

ERNEST THOMSON WRITES ABOUT RADIO AND TELEVISION PERSONALITIES AND PROGRAMMES

Humble little donkey in the picture

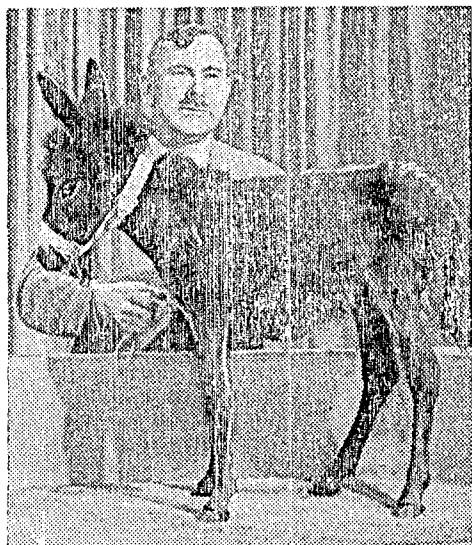
ONE of the first animal guests that George Cansdale ever brought to the TV studio was a baby donkey. That was seven years ago, in the studios at Alexandra Palace. A photographer was standing by and got the happy snap shown here.

On Sunday Mr. Cansdale will have another donkey in front of the cameras, this time for his Animals of the Bible series in Sunday Special.

He will tell how the humble ass was one of the earliest beasts of burden mentioned in the Old Testament, and will trace many Biblical references to it until the triumphant moment when Jesus rode an ass into Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday.

By the way, two four-footed friends will also be in the BBC's Swansea Television studios for this Wednesday's Good Companions programme. They are a Welsh mountain pony and its foal.

Mountain ponies are now making lots of money for their owners. A registered pony can fetch as much as 400 guineas and there is an extremely flourishing market for these attractive little animals, particularly in America.



George Cansdale with the little donkey he brought to the studios seven years ago

The producer of the programme, Humphrey Fisher, will be showing films of Welsh ponies in their natural surroundings.

SPOTLIGHT ON SPACE

Inside the control room of a radio telescope

No one who enjoys space travel stories should miss the chance of seeing the real thing in BBC Television at 9 o'clock this Wednesday evening. The giant radio telescope at Jodrell Bank is being specially floodlit for live TV shots in this programme, called Breakthrough, which deals with the latest rocket and satellite experiments in different countries. It coincides with the opening of the Royal Society's Conference on Rockets and Satellites.

There will also be live cameras at the Westcott Rocket Propulsion Establishment and the Larkhill Guided Weapon Range.

The BBC have been allowed the rare privilege of taking films inside the Jodrell Bank control room, where sputniks and space rockets are tracked. Other films will show how pilots of high-flying aircraft are given medical checks at Farnborough, and the firing of



Skylark and Black Knight rockets at Woomera in Australia. Films from the U.S.A. will show moon probes and satellites in rockets

going up at the launching site at Cape Canaveral.

The TV commentator will be Raymond Baxter.

Insuring the gap in his teeth

LLOYD'S of London recently issued one of the oddest policies in their long history of unusual insurance risks—they insured one half-inch of space.

While he was taking part in an action sequence for the new M-G-M film of the fairy-tale classic Tom Thumb, Terry-Thomas nearly had his front teeth knocked out. But he was not so much worried about his teeth as he was about the famous Terry-Thomas "trademark" gap between them.

So, in case of future risks, he insured the exact dimensions of the gap itself.

Japan's Eiffel Tower

JAPAN now has a building very like the famous Eiffel Tower in Paris. It is a new television tower soaring 1082 feet above Tokyo. When complete it will have television studios at its base and a glass-walled observation platform and restaurant about halfway up.

In the days of the Jacobites

THE name Charles Edward Stuart, coupled with the date 1745, suggests the Second Jacobite Rebellion in Scotland. But The Rebel Heiress, six-part serial starting in BBC Children's TV on Saturday, is set in Cornwall, though its thrilling adventures are centred on the Young Pretender.

This tale of an unsuccessful plot to land Prince Charles on the Cornish coast was brilliantly told in Joseph Hocking's novel Mistress Nancy Molesworth. Mary Holland is Nancy, and Patrick Troughton is the hero, Roger Trevannion.

After many exciting fights and other exploits Roger falls in love with Nancy, who is a Jacobite. Then he becomes a Jacobite.

Young hopeful

THE BBC gets many odd requests. One of the best I have seen came in the other day from a very young schoolboy at Willenhall, Staffs. I think you will agree it would be kind not to give his name.

He wrote: "Dear Sportsview, Would you please put football tele recordings on early at night, e.g. 8.30 p.m. If you do put them on later, then will you please write a letter to my parents asking if I can stop up late to watch it. Yours in hope"

Happy Families

If you have ever played that good old game Happy Families, you may be interested to see it come to life in Associated-Rediffusion. Producer Penny Wootton, who handles Small Time, tells me the scheduled starting date is early in December.

Live actors will take such parts as Mr. Bun the Baker and his family, Mr. Chips the Carpenter, Mr. Bones the Butcher, and other well-known characters.

In a research laboratory

You do not have to be a highly-trained scientist in order to be a laboratory technician. But there are chances of a splendid scientific career if you start off by way of the experimental benches in a research laboratory.

That is Frederick Laws' conclusion after visiting commercial firms and the National Physical Laboratory to record on-the-spot interviews for his programme, I Want To Be—a Laboratory Technician. It will be broadcast in Saturday's BBC Children's Hour.

Frederick Laws wrote the Careers programmes on Banking, the Post Office, Becoming a Potter, and the Toy Industry. This time he has chosen to be extra topical, because so much is said and written about the need for young people to train for technological careers. If you are wondering about the prospects, next Saturday's programme may help you to decide.

Taking a look at Mars

NOTHING could be more up-to-the-minute than Seeing Stars, the BBC Children's TV programme on Friday. Patrick Moore will help young viewers to explore Mars.

There are three good reasons why Mars is in the news. First, having had a shot at the Moon, the American scientists are already talking of firing a rocket round the planet. Secondly, Mars is now only 45 million miles from the Earth, just about as near as it can get.

Thirdly—and most important—on Sunday the Sun, the Earth, and Mars will be in a straight line, rather like a winning row of O's in Junior Criss Cross Quiz. The Earth, of course, will be in the middle.

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Mistress Nancy and her steed

The Children's Newspaper, November 15, 1958

Boy Acrobats in the Market Square

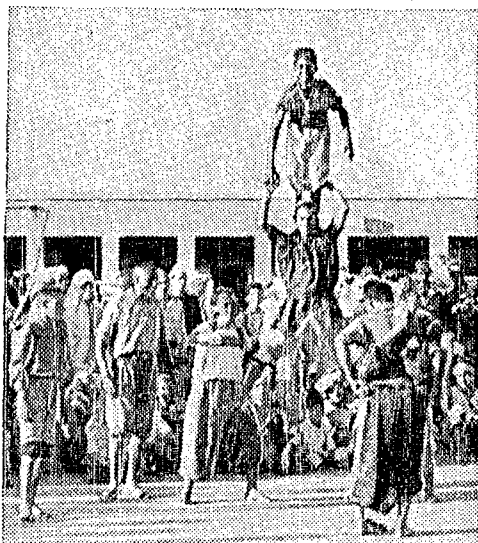
By a Correspondent in Morocco

In the south of Morocco, near the snowy peaks of the Atlas Mountains, is the walled city of Marrakesh. In the centre of this ancient place is a large square, Djemaa el Fna, which until about 50 years ago was used as a slave market. Now it is a stage for popular entertainers.

Every afternoon, as the heat gets less, men and boys arrive in small groups. There are Berber dancers, young men from the mountain tribes dressed in long white robes, white turbans, and white leather slippers. Each has a curved dagger hanging in a silver sheath from his side. They play queer tunes on stringed instruments made from the shells of tortoises, and dance solemnly round in circles.

Then the boy acrobats arrive—four of them, dressed in bright silk tunics of red, yellow, violet, and green. They are barefooted. With them is a tall man with a small gold earring in one ear, who collects the money from the crowd. There is also a clown.

Boy acrobats form a pyramid; and (below) a boy mind-reader



He is dressed in a queer red tunic, his face is whitened with flour, and on his head is an old red "fez"—like an inverted felt flower pot.

There are several groups of boys and dancers as well as others—the story-tellers, an old blind man banging on a tom-tom and a native doctor who sells medicines to cure every illness. Each group starts its act, and soon passing men and women stop to watch. The first row squats on the dusty ground, the others stand or lean on their bicycles.

The boy acrobats are kept on the move by the tall man. They turn somersaults, frontwards and backwards, climb up in a pyramid, tease the clown, who pretends to get angry and chases them round only to get his fez knocked off

and have jokes made at his expense to make the crowd laugh. But spectators never clap nor seem particularly amused. They just stare, then hand a coin to the tall man and drift on to watch another group.

In one corner I saw a boy mind-reading. He was sitting at a table, his hands hidden by a long cloth, and he was blindfolded. The man with him, in a yellow turban, waved a thin stick at different people or objects saying: "Who is there?" and "What is that?"

Without moving the boy answered everything correctly. But he was very quick and I

wondered if he could really see through the black cloth over his eyes? But even so, how did he guess correctly the number of a passing taxi, because he was sitting and the standing crowd hid the car from him? It was all very puzzling.

When the man pointed to me and said: "Who is that?" the boy answered: "A 'Nazrania.'" This is a Moslem word for a European meaning "Nazarine," because we are followers of the "Prophet of Nazareth," as they call Jesus.

Too many seals, too few deer

The grey seals of the Farne Islands are to be reduced in number. In recent years they have been steadily increasing until now over a thousand come each autumn to give birth to their calves at this famous National Trust sanctuary off the Northumberland coast.

Fishermen had been complaining for many years about the damage seals did to fish and, as a result of an investigation by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, together with local naturalists, some of this damage to the salmon fishery was found to be proved. It has therefore been decided to remove some of the young seals born on the islands this autumn in order to reduce their numbers.

In the Dee estuary of Cheshire

TWO MERMAIDS IN A FILM

A Kenya film company has just made a picture starring two dugongs, the sea mammals which are believed to have given rise to the legend of the mermaid. The dugongs were caught in nets in the Indian Ocean, and transferred to a hotel swimming pool.

Underwater shots were taken of them gambolling with human members of the cast.

This is believed to be the first time that these rare animals have been caught alive. They are vegetarians, and while in the swimming pool fed happily on sea grass, chopped cabbage, and chopped lettuce. The food was put into a wire-netting cage and lowered to the bottom of the pool; the dugongs ate it in an almost vertical position, head downwards.

Although the film producers were afterwards asked to sell their two "stars" to a zoo, they decided to return them to the Indian Ocean. Because of their rarity, they are fully protected by the Kenya Government.

Helping hand for historic houses

Livingstone's birthplace at Blantyre is among 34 historic buildings which have recently received Government grants in aid of their preservation. Another is the Crown and Treaty House at Uxbridge, where the fruitless treaty between Charles I and the Commissioners for Parliament was signed in 1645.

Among the three Welsh buildings on the list is Nanteos, an 18th-century mansion at Llanilar, a few miles from Aberystwyth. Nanteos is famous for its furniture and old kitchen-utensils, and above all, for the Nanteos Cup, a fragmentary wooden vessel which folk lore identifies with the Holy Grail.

BLEERS BY THE MILE

Tape recordings of radio signals from the third Russian sputnik measure more than 600 miles. They are being stored at a centre in Moscow.

Everyday-its

Fun to play-

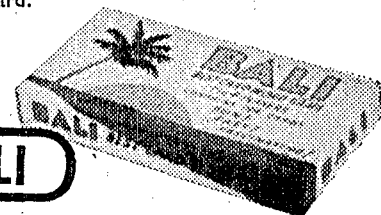
SPEAR'S GAMES



RAIL RACE

A thrilling race over Britain's railways with miniature engines. "Incident" cards check or send you forward as you make your own winning route, on a large stout map-board. 2-6 players.

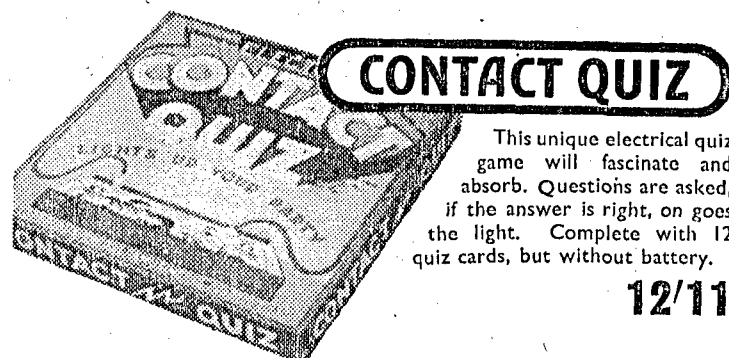
17/11



BALI

Bali is the best pocket size word game for 1-4 players, entirely different from any other, being neither a crossword nor patience type of game. It contains 108 fine patience size playing cards. Play it alone or with your friends.

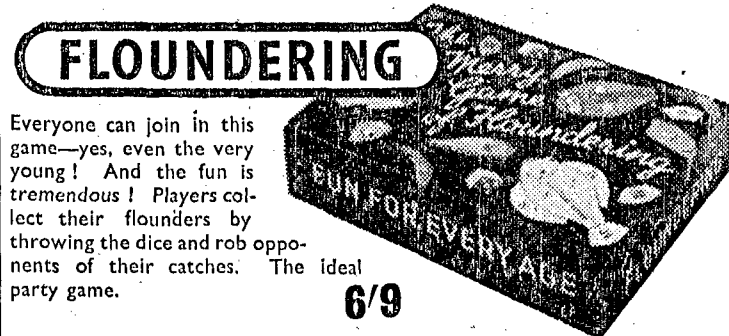
7/6



CONTACT QUIZ

This unique electrical quiz game will fascinate and absorb. Questions are asked, if the answer is right, on goes the light. Complete with 12 quiz cards, but without battery.

12/11



FLOUNDERING

Everyone can join in this game—yes, even the very young! And the fun is tremendous! Players collect their flounders by throwing the dice and rob opponents of their catches. The ideal party game.

6/9



TELL ME

The queen of quiz games. Provides endless fun for children 8-15 and grown-ups enjoy it too. Spin the wheel and roll out the questions! Any number can play.

6/-

Obtainable from good toyshops and departmental stores. If your dealer cannot supply, write for address of nearest stockist to:

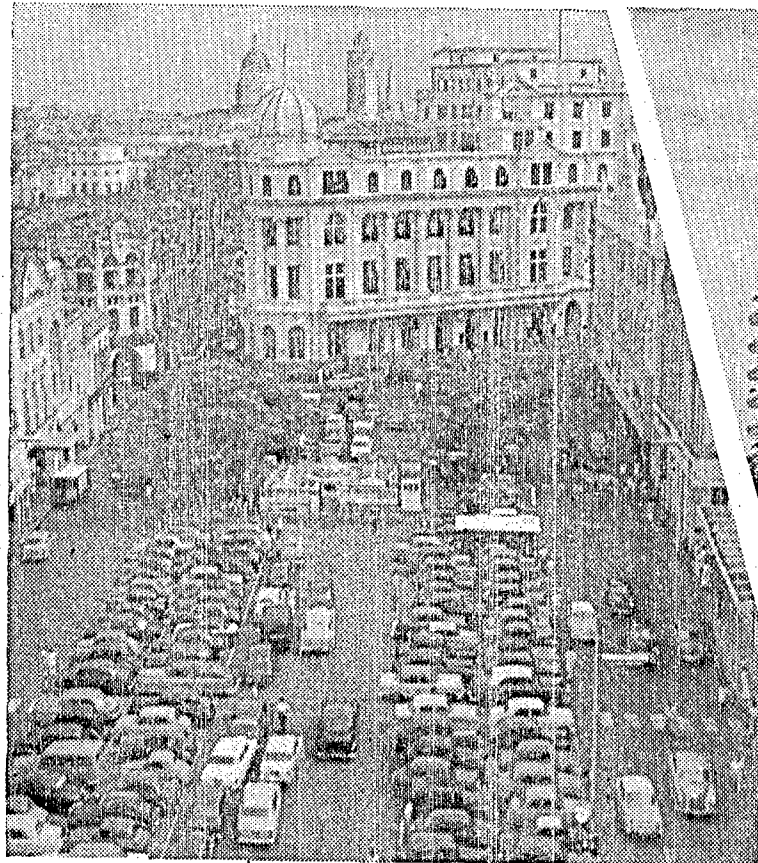
J. W. SPEAR & SONS LTD. Dept. C, Enfield, Mddx.

There are many roe in the woods and forestry land of north Lancashire, Westmoreland, and Cumberland. E. H.

COMMONWEALTH

THE Crown Colony of Singapore is an island at the southern tip of the Malayan peninsula, with which it is linked by a causeway. The area, with adjacent islets, is 225 square miles, about the same as that of the Isle of Man. The population is 1,500,000, more than three-quarters being Chinese and the rest chiefly Malays, Indians, and Pakistanis. Two-thirds of the population live in the city of Singapore, on the south coast of the island.

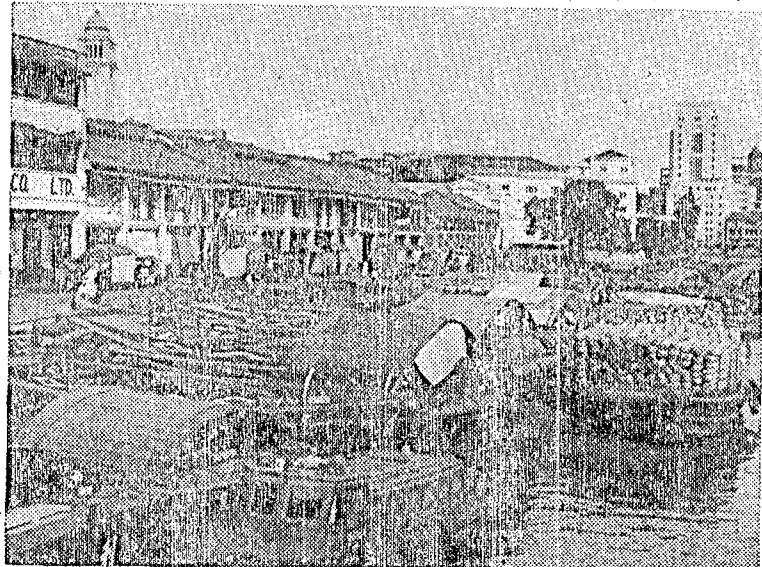
SINGAPORE was a desolate island of jungle and swamp when Sir Stamford Raffles founded a trading post there in 1819. The new settlement grew rapidly, and seven years later was incorporated with Malacca and Penang as the Straits Settlements. Singapore be-



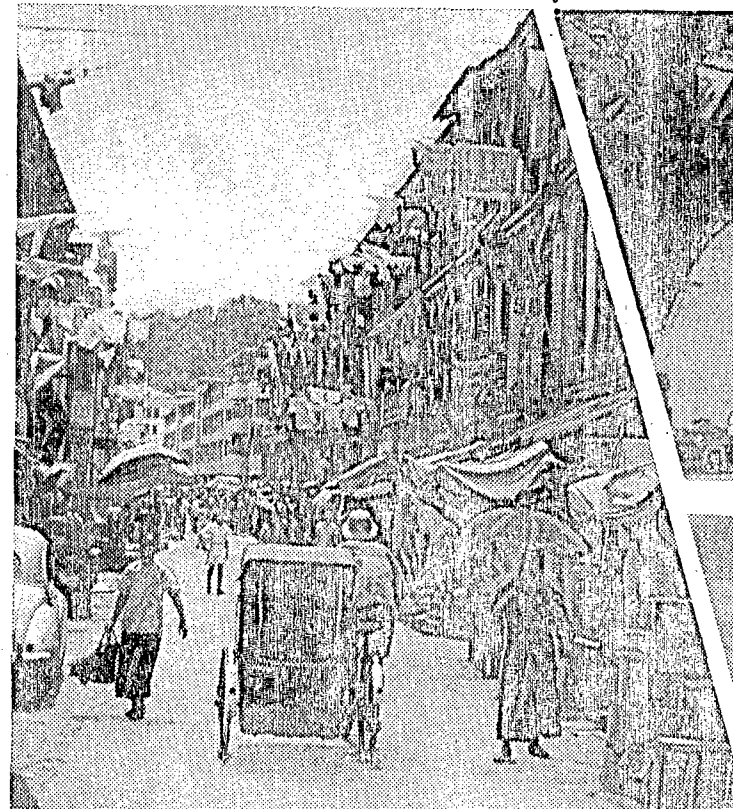
Raffles Place, chief shopping and commercial centre of Singapore City



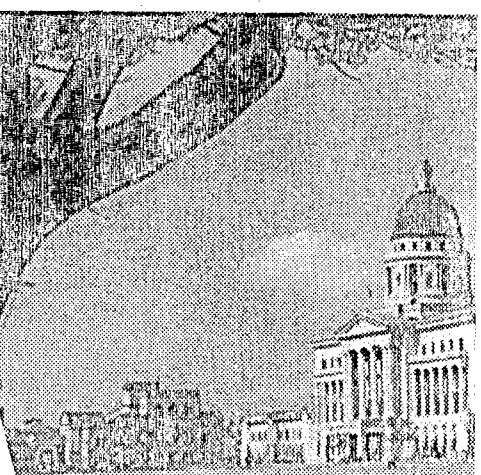
Modern flats in the heart of the city



Sampans on the busy Singapore River



Street market in Singapore's Chinatown, with washing hanging from every window



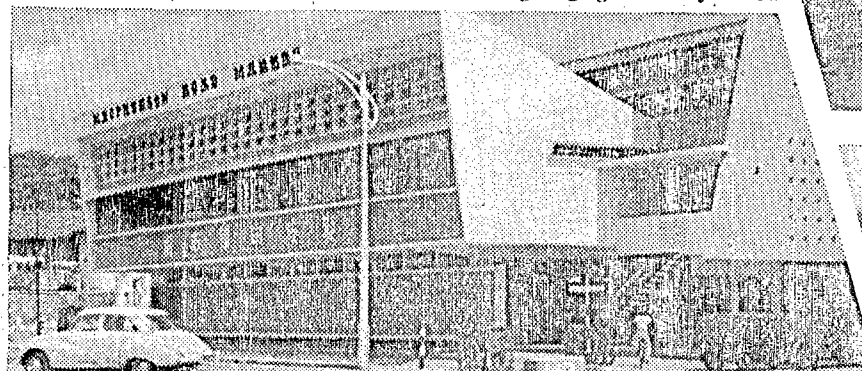
The domed Supreme Court Building



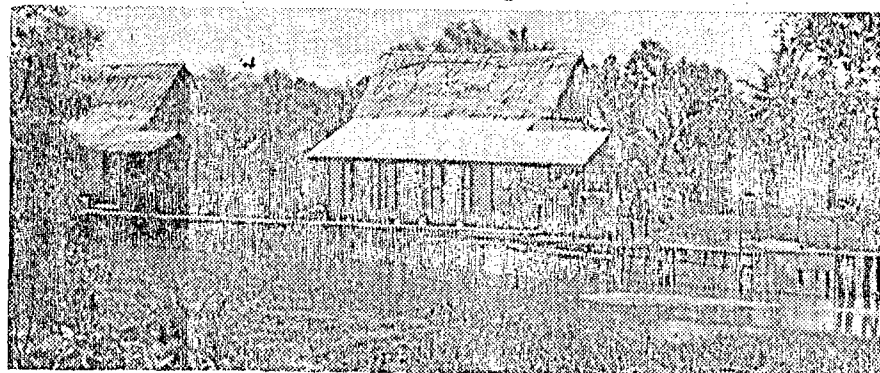
Impressive buildings on the hill



Gateway to a famous collection of Chinese statuary



Modern two-storey market in striking contrast to the one above



Malay houses on stilts in swampy country



Three young Malays



Man with a sarong

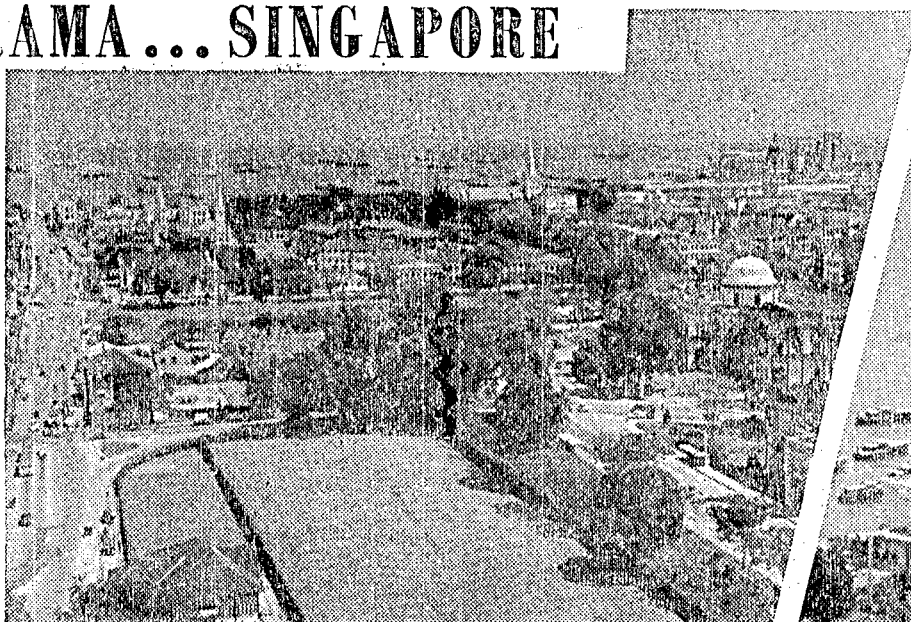
paper, November 15, 1958

7

HEALTH PANORAMA... SINGAPORE

came a separate Colony in 1946. Soon it is to become a self-governing State within the British Commonwealth, with Her Majesty's Government remaining in charge of external affairs and the island's important military, naval, and air base.

OFTEN called the Western Gateway to the Pacific, Singapore is the biggest port in south-east Asia and a great trading centre. It exports a high proportion of Malaya's rubber, tin, and other important products, and imports vast quantities of goods for distribution throughout south-east Asia. The Colony's main products are processed rubber and tin, canned pineapples, and coconut oil. It also has a wide range of light industries.



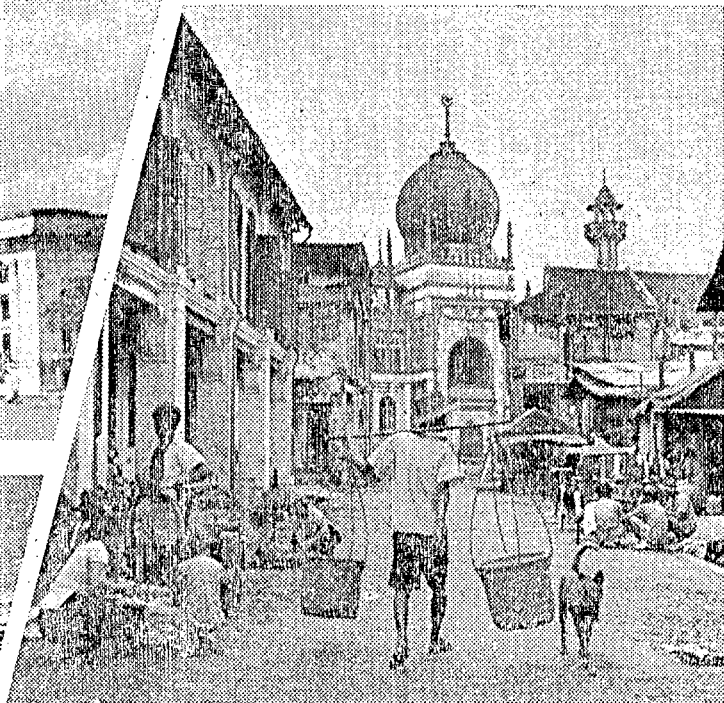
Looking across spires and open spaces to the harbour



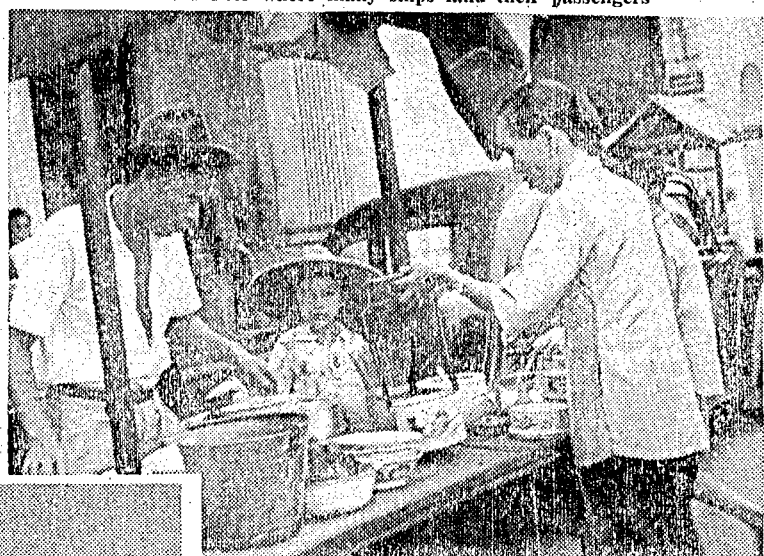
Clifford Pier where many ships land their passengers



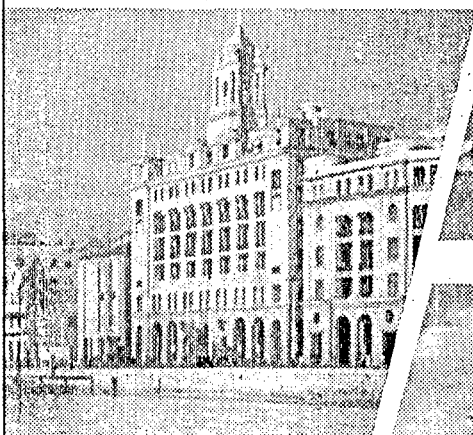
g and (on the right) the City Hall



Street scene near one of the many Moslem mosques



Open-air buffet for Chinese delicacies



waterfront of Singapore City



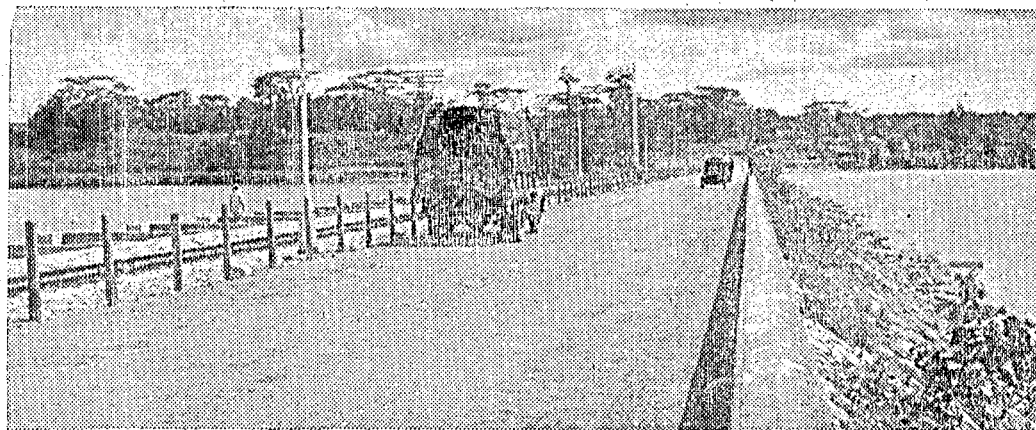
Government House stands on a hill in a fine park



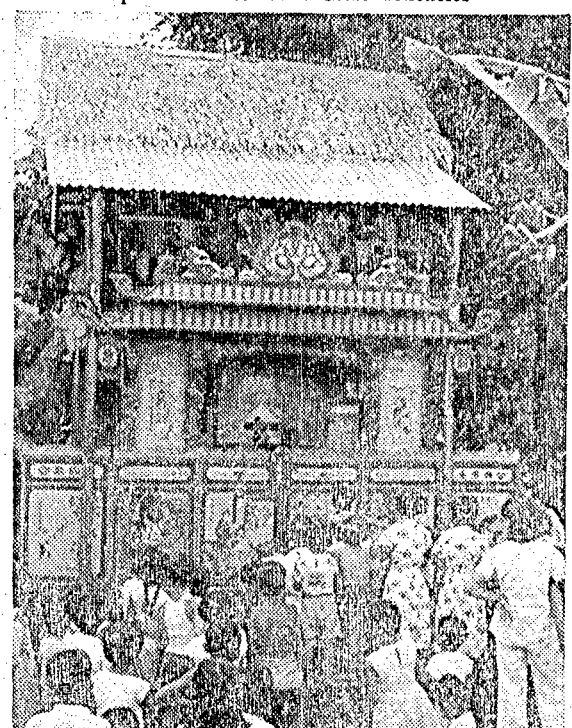
ny people of the colony



mobile coffee-stall



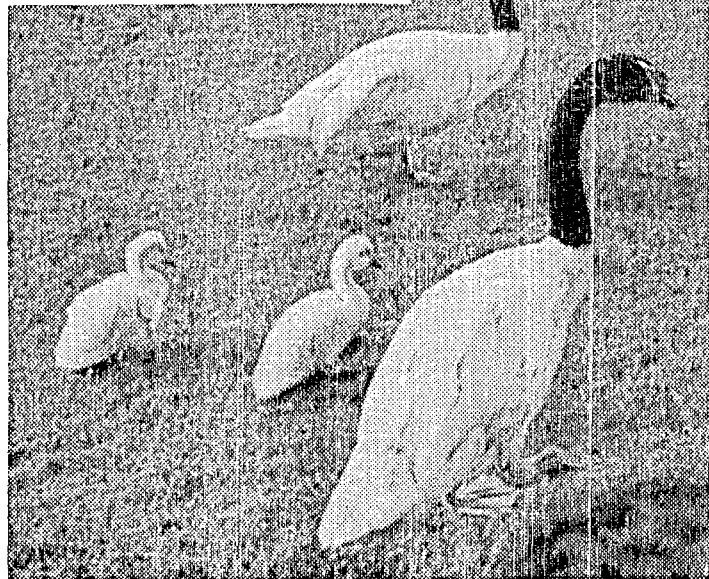
Causeway linking the island with the Malay Peninsula. It is three-quarters of a mile long



Children at a Chinese puppet show

Whipsnade's first

A pair of South American Black-necked swans at Whipsnade have hatched the first of their species ever to be born at that Zoo. These birds do not develop their black necks until they grow up.

**TAKING THE THEATRE TO THE SCHOOLS**

Perhaps the day of a specially-built theatre for children in London is not so far away. For if the success of the present English Mobile Children's Theatre continues, the dream of its director, Miss Caryl Jenner, for a permanent headquarters, may soon be realised.

In only ten years the group has grown from one to three companies. Now there are plans for a fourth company, which means that many more schools will be able to see original plays which have been written specially for children.

Miss Jenner has told a CN correspondent that one company gave regular children's performances on Saturdays and Sundays at the New Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, this year. The other companies have appeared in schools all over the country and at least 600 shows are given

annually, the plays being varied to suit different age groups.

For the very young (4 to 7), three little playlets are produced, starting with a mime which leads into dialogue. For juniors (9 to 11), two plays are presented, one of which is often a folk tale. For the seniors (12 to 15), the programme usually consists of two contrasting plays.

Although the companies play in every sort of school hall, facilities are improving all the time. In many new schools the stages and equipment are found to be really first rate.

The companies go wherever they are wanted and the demand

is increasing so that more and more schoolchildren are getting the chance to see them each year. For instance, shows were given this summer on band-stands in London parks, a most popular fine-weather attraction.

There are normally seven players in each company and they rehearse in London before going out on the road. The scenery is specially designed and can be quickly assembled and taken down. A company needs about 1½ hours to unload and begin a performance and about 45 minutes to clear up and be on their way to give another show to young audiences.

Obliging badger in a Sussex wood

"What can we do about the wasps?" That was the problem which recently faced woodmen on a Sussex estate who found themselves plagued by wasps from two large nests.

Then early one morning the foresters found that both nests had been burgled. A badger had been there in the night and had a good feed. Badgers are very partial to wasp grubs which they dig out of nests in the ground. They seem to have no fear of stings, either.

Though much obliged to the raider the woodmen realised they would have to make good any damage the badger had done in breaking into this small wood. Yet when they inspected the three-foot-high fence of wire-netting surrounding it, no trace of a hole could be found. How had the badger come in?

The mystery was only solved by following the animal's foot-prints with their five-claw marks.

These led through the grass to a portion of fence which was leaning slightly. Without causing any damage, the badger had apparently managed to jump over the fence at this point—jumping back the same way. It is known that badgers, especially when young, are quite good jumpers and cubs have been seen playing a kind of leap-frog together.

This is the season when young badgers leave their parents for

good and claim setts or burrows of their own. It is also the time when the parent badgers collect dead bracken and grass for their underground living-room, as 11-year-old Peter Farrow recently discovered when he collected firewood in a Buckinghamshire fir wood. "It was just before dusk," he reported to his school Natural History Club (at Chailey Heritage). "I suddenly came upon two big badgers with bits of bracken sticking to their snouts. They were dragging grass and bracken down a hole in the bank—until they sniffed me and bolted down it."

Chance encounters of this kind may happen only once or twice in a lifetime. A Brighton policeman on night patrol recently heard a suspicious noise behind a shop on the outskirts of the town. Burglars? Silently he crept after the trespasser ready to make an arrest. Then the stranger's eyes stared into his and a powerful badger clumsily galloped away.

TAKING CARE OF YOUR PETS

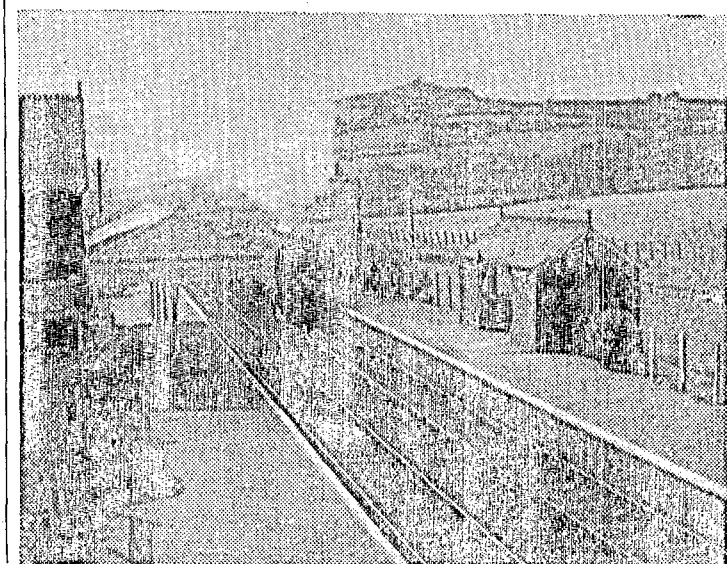
Readers who have any problems concerning their pets should write to Mr. Charles Trevisick, F.Z.S., Ilfracombe Zoo Park, North Devon. He will answer queries as quickly as possible. But please enclose a stamped, addressed envelope for the reply.

Southern and Western side by side

The scene in this photograph is a reminder of the days before the railways were nationalised, when rival companies even ran separate lines side by side.

The goods train is entering Brentor station, which is on the former London and South Western line from Plymouth to Okehampton (built in 1875), and is now part of British Railways Southern Region.

Behind the waiting-room (on the right of our picture) can be seen the old Great Western line from Plymouth to Launceston and now part of British Railways Western Region. It was laid about 1865 and has no station at Brentor. On the other hand, Mary Tavy, a little farther down the line, has a station on the Western Region but does not have one on the Southern Region.

**HEREWARD THE WAKE—picture-version of Charles Kingsley's tale of Saxon England (6)**

As Hereward's men landed, the crowd fell back. Then a boy rode up saying he was Arnoul, heir to the Marquis of Flanders. He called on the shipwrecked warriors to surrender. Hereward replied that he and his men were Vikings and that they yielded to no man. But it transpired that Vikings were Arnoul's heroes. He said they should be his brothers and arranged for them to stay at a nearby abbey.



Hereward sent word to the Marquis at Bruges offering to join his service. The Marquis replied by asking him to join an expedition against the Count of Guisnes, who refused to pay his dues. So the newcomers, accompanied by Arnoul, went from St. Omer to the castle at Guisnes, where Hereward met the Count's nephew in single combat—watched by both sides. The two warriors clashed and fell.



They continued the fight on foot, their swords ringing on each other's armour, while the onlookers cheered lustily. Then Hereward struck his opponent senseless, picked him up, and carried him triumphantly back to the Marquis of Flanders' men. Next day the Count of Guisnes ransomed his nephew, paid the dues he owed, and thus ended the dispute between himself and his overlord, the ruler of Flanders.



Hereward was now a hero in Flanders, and among those who heard of his deed was a rich young lady named Torfrida, who lived with her widowed mother at St. Omer. Torfrida was famed for her beauty and learning—but some said that she secretly practised the "magic arts." When the Marquis's men returned to St. Omer, Torfrida peeped from her window, eager to catch a glimpse of this English knight.

What effect will this mysterious lady have on Hereward's career? See next week's instalment



Grand new story about the boys of Linbury Court

JENNINGS, AS USUAL

by Anthony Buckeridge

Owing to his misguided efforts to retrieve a confiscated penknife, Jennings is forbidden by Mr. Wilkins to attend the Christmas party. Then he finds the master's missing fountain pen and plans to go to the party dressed as Father Christmas in order to restore the property to its owner. Unknown to Jennings, Mr. Wilkins has been persuaded to attend the party in the role of Father Christmas.

23. False whiskers for two!

IN fairness to Mr. Wilkins it must be said that he had no real intention of forbidding Jennings to attend the Christmas party. The ban which he had imposed in the heat of the moment was in reality more of a threat than a punishment—a sentence which could be repealed at the eleventh hour, thus giving an added joy to the reprieve. Moreover, he had decided to return the confiscated penknife before the boys went to bed as further proof that all schoolmasters have hearts of gold—well, on the last night of term, anyway!

Indeed, he was actually on his way to the Common-room in his role of fairy godmother when the bell rang to announce the start of the party.

Ready for the disguise

As the sound of the bell died away, Mr. Carter emerged from the dining hall and hailed his colleague as he was about to climb the stairs.

"Come along now, Wilkins. It's time you were assuming your disguise," he said.

"Disguise?" For a moment Mr. Wilkins looked blank. Then he remembered. Ah yes, of course! That Father Christmas business. He had had so many things to attend to in the last few days that he had forgotten about the part which he had agreed to play: and now that he was reminded of his promise he looked upon the project with certain misgivings.

"You know, Carter, I think it'd be much better if you were to be Santa Claus," he said persuasively. "I don't honestly think I'm cut out for the part."

"Nonsense! You'll be a roaring success," Mr. Carter replied in tones which permitted no argument. He took his colleague by the arm and guided him gently but firmly across the hall and into the staff-room. . . . And thus it was that Mr. Wilkins' mind was turned to other matters and he forgot all about his intention of finding Jennings and granting him a last-minute reprieve.

"I thought it would be best if you were to dress up in here where the boys won't see you,"

Mr. Carter went on as he closed the staff-room door. "I want to keep the whole thing a surprise until the right moment."

Laid out on the table were the scarlet robe and hood, while dangling on a piece of elastic from the cupboard door knob was the long white beard, smelling strongly of mothballs.

Muttering to himself, Mr. Wilkins began struggling into his costume: but owing to a lack of patience with an unfamiliar garment, he soon became lost in its folds. With his head enshrouded in a fur-lined hood which came down over his eyes, he groped and tunnelled his way blindly through endless yards of material, until finally his left foot emerged through one of the armholes as his face appeared at the opening of the corresponding sleeve.

"Made for an octopus"

"This is fantastic. It must have been made for an octopus," he panted, drawing in a lungful of welcome fresh air.

"Try again," Mr. Carter advised gently. "You've got it on back-to-front and upside-down; and I rather think it's inside out as well."

At his second attempt Mr. Wilkins succeeded in donning his costume. Then, with an air of injured martyrdom, he stretched over his head the elastic band to which his whiskers were attached. For a moment he stood with his beard jutting straight out from his forehead, the ends drooping down a foot in front of his eyes like the fringe of a lampshade.

"Prickly stuff this crepe hair—it tickles," he complained, wrinkling his nose against the smell of moth balls.

Patiently, Mr. Carter arranged the whiskers and adjusted the elastic to prevent his colleague's nose from protruding through the gap between the moustache and the beard.

Warm whiskers

"That looks splendid, Wilkins! You make a perfect Father Christmas," he declared, stepping back to admire the transformation.

"Glad you think so," Father Christmas grunted. "My goodness! These whiskers are warm; it's like wearing a scarf round your face. I tell you, Carter, I shall be glad when this party is over."

Mr. Carter ignored the criticism and proceeded to brief Father Christmas in his duties. "Stay here until all the boys have gone into tea," he said. "Then go along to the kitchen and wait by the door leading into the dining-

hall. You'll be able to hear me announce that an important visitor has arrived, and that's your cue to knock on the door. . . ."

"Like this," said Mr. Wilkins, beating out a distinctive rhythm of seven taps on the staff-room table.

"That's the idea! Whereupon you'll make your entry and—well. . . ." Mr. Carter spread his hands in a gesture of easy confidence as he turned to leave the room. "Well, after that the party should really get going."

Rival show

In this respect Mr. Carter was right; though he was unaware of the plans which were at that moment taking shape in another part of the building.

It was quiet upstairs in Dormitory 4, and even though the rest of the school were down below in the dining hall, Jennings and Darbshire found themselves speaking in whispers.

"They've just sat down for tea. I heard the chairs rumbling," Darbshire confided as he teased out a roll of cotton wool which he had found in Matron's dispensary.

Jennings nodded, and glanced at his reflection in the mirror. By now he had the red blanket pinned under his chin and trailing round him in the form of an improvised cloak. "There wasn't much balsa cement left, so I may have to help it out with soap," he said.

Darbshire pursed his lips doubtfully. "I only hope it doesn't drop off in the middle, that's all." "Oh, it should be all right in the middle. It's the side pieces we'll have to be careful with."

Sticky business

"No, you clodpoll. I mean the middle of the party, not the middle of the whiskers," Darbshire explained. He picked up a pair of nail scissors and shaped the cotton wool into a long spade-shaped beard. "Here you are, Jen. Try this for size."

The balsa cement proved to be an excellent substitute for spirit gum: so good, in fact, that the boys had a great deal of trouble with wisps of cotton wool adhering to their fingers as they struggled to fix the beard in place. Between them, however, they at last succeeded in festooning Jennings' face in a fluffy cocoon of white whiskers of which both the make-up artists were extremely proud. As a precaution against accidents, Jennings looped a pyjama cord under his chin and knotted it on top of his head beneath the make-shift hood.

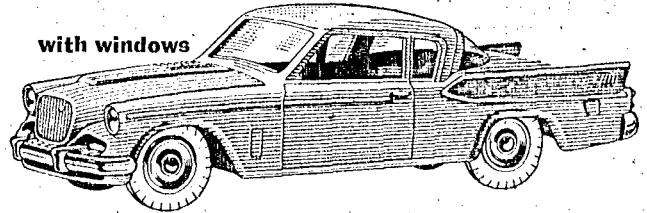
"Jolly good, Jen. You look as

Continued on page 10.

BOYS!

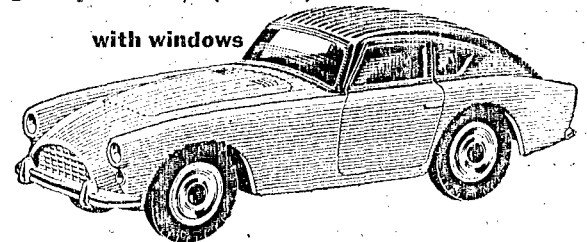
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LOOKING AT THE SKY

TINY MOONS OF MARS

THE planet Mars is now at its nearest to us, about 45 million miles away, and much the brightest object in the late evening sky. The Moon being absent, Mars may therefore be seen at its best. However, the planet will soon fade and in a month's time will not be nearly so bright.

The chief reason for this is that the Earth is passing Mars in its orbit round the Sun, travelling at nearly 18½ miles a second against the 15 miles a second of Mars. Being comparatively near each other at the moment, the separation of the two worlds is more apparent. In a month's time Mars will be 12 million miles farther away.

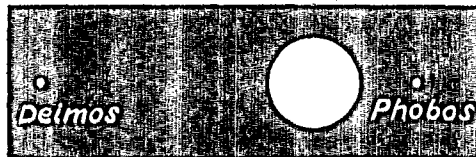
It is fortunate that the Moon is absent from the sky, for owners of sufficiently powerful telescopes will be able to get a glimpse of Phobos and Deimos, the two diminutive moons of Mars. So small are they that even together they do not give nearly as much light to Mars as our Moon does to the Earth. They were unknown until the year 1877, when they were discovered by Professor Hall at Washington, U.S.A. Yet, strangely enough, their existence

was foretold 151 years earlier, by Dean Swift.

Describing Laputa in his famous book, Gulliver's Travels, Dean Swift stated that "the astronomers there have discovered two lesser

tively much smaller than they appear in the diagram, Phobos having a calculated diameter of about ten miles, and Deimos only about five miles.

They travel with great speed in their strange orbits. Phobos takes only 7 hours 39 minutes 13 seconds to complete its orbit. During this short period Phobos presents all the phases shown by our Moon except that Phobos is frequently eclipsed by Mars.



stars, or satellites, which revolve about Mars, whereof the innermost is distant from the centre of the planet exactly three of his diameters, and the outermost five; the former revolves in the space of ten hours and the latter in twenty-one and a half."

It was a remarkable prediction, for in 1726 not much was known about the planets, yet the details are very near those that actually exist.

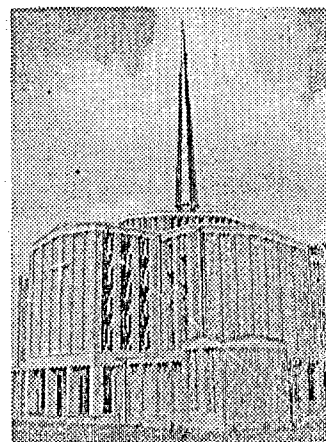
Phobos and Deimos never appear far from the surface of Mars, as can be seen from the accompanying diagram showing the two moons at their average proportionate distances from Mars with the planet on the same scale. The satellites are, of course, rela-

The planet rotates in 24 hours 37 minutes 23 seconds, so Phobos makes three revolutions round Mars in about a single day. Consequently, to any observer on Mars, Phobos would appear to be going the reverse way to all other celestial bodies—rising in the west and setting in the east.

Deimos is about 12,500 miles from Mars, and Phobos about 3700 miles. This accounts for the great speed with which Phobos has to travel to escape falling on to the planet.

G. F. M.

New Church for New Town



At Harlow New Town, Essex, the new church of St. Paul is nearing completion. The spire, nearly 100 feet high and encased in copper, makes a prominent landmark.

VICTORY STONE

The Victory Stone, commemorating the German surrender to Field-Marshal Montgomery in May 1945, has been brought to this country from Luneberg, and is to be set up at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

To be concluded

JUST A FEW WORDS

HERE is an entertaining way to increase your knowledge of words. Each numbered sentence below is followed by three answers or comments you might make; but, in each case, only one is correct and shows that you have understood the meaning of the word in *italics*. To answer five correctly is very good.

Answers are given on page 11

- He has *elicited* a great deal.
A—Drawn forth much information.
B—Saved up a lot of money.
C—Stolen many things.
- The results of their work have been *cumulative*.
A—Added to gradually.
B—Troublesome.
C—The highest possible success.
- Your unhappiness will be *transient*.
A—Easily noticed.
B—Quickly passing.
C—Hard to control.
- A charming manner may be *illusory*.
A—Misleading.
B—Difficult to describe.
C—A claim to fame.
- She has been *eclipsed* by her sister.
A—Taken in hand.
B—Scolded.
C—Put in the shade.
- Some ancient castles were *impregnable*.
A—Impossible to capture.
B—Magnificent to look at.
C—Haunted.

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PUZZLE PARADE

MIXED TRIOS

The three missing words each consist of the same three letters differently arranged.

PAT walked home as one in a dream. He blundered into a patch of wet — where the road was being repaired, and a big — ran almost across his toes unnoticed. He had thoughts for nothing but the — class.

ALL GREEN

GREEN Good gardener.
Green Jealous.
Green An English air.
Green Huge island.
Green Beginner.

PICK THE DATES

Do you know the names given to the days which fall on the following dates?

FEBRUARY 2.
February 14.
March the First.
March 17.
April the First.
July 15.
October 31.

WHAT AM I?

NEITHER a plane nor a bird am I,
Though you will see me in the sky.
Full of water, yet not the sea
Or a river; what can I be?

PLACES AND PEOPLE

What famous literary people do you associate with the following places?

ABBOTSFORD; Bedford; Odense;
Stratford-upon-Avon; Samoa.

TWIN WORDS

Each of the following groups of letters can be formed into two true words. In each case, one of the words gives the name of an animal.

HEROS ERDE EAP OLEV
ARBE MALB AGTO

AMAZING NOVELTY

SIX IVORY ELEPHANTS
INSIDE A TINY BEAN

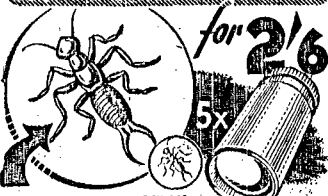
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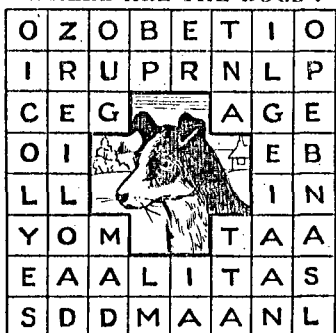
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The 3-D NATURE VIEWER

CATCH QUESTION

WHAT familiar object, when thrown to the ground, will rise into the air, but when thrown into the air will fall to the ground?

WHERE ARE THE DOGS?



By starting at a certain letter and moving across the squares, in any direction, you will form the names of eight breeds of dog.

SET TO MUSIC

The answer to each of the following clues is a word which is also a term used in music.

LEVEL or tasteless.
A short letter.
Weighing machines.
A stick.
A policeman's tour.
Army rank.
Essential to life.
To throw.
Under-age or young.
Pointed or witty.

LOTS OF ANIMALS

The names of the animals in this list have got jumbled up and placed in the wrong order. Can you sort them out?

A GAGGLE of epehs
A flock of igsp
A herd of seeeg
A litter of slovw
A pack of sefabulof.

LUCKY DIP

SURPRISE PRESENT

It's my Daddy's birthday on Friday,
And I've got a lovely surprise—
A present that I'm keeping hidden
Away from the family's eyes.
Miranda's bought Daddy some hankies,
And Mummy has bought him a pen,
While wee Baby Susie is giving
The picture she drew of a hen.
But my present is a big secret
That nobody knows except me—
And oh, when he sees what I've bought him
How pleased Daddy's going to be!
He has no idea at the moment
That, hidden away in the house,
There's a wonderful gift for his birthday—
A dear little snowy-white mouse!

UP IN THE AIR

Two wild geese were watching
jet-aircraft.
One turned to the other and said:
"Yes, I know it's very clever to fly without flapping. But they needn't roar about it."

ON STRIKE

A CUCKOO once sulked in his clock
Because Summer Time gave him a shock.
"I'll not strike any more;
I won't open my door.
If they want me," he said, "they can knock!"

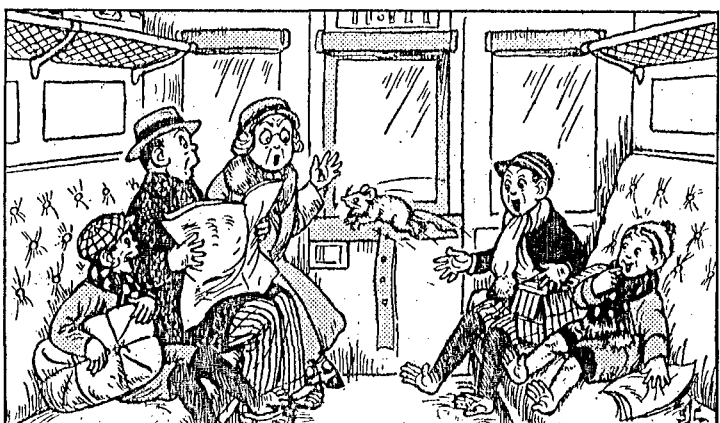
SHOOTING STAR

A LITTLE girl was watching a man looking through a telescope when, suddenly glancing up, she saw a star appearing to fall.
"Goodness me," she said, "you are a good shot."

THE SCARECROW

I WOULD love to be a scarecrow—
My life quite free from care.
I'd always wear my oldest clothes
And never comb my hair.
Instead of using soap, the rain
Would wash the dirt away.
I wouldn't need to go to school;
No homework every day.
Of course, you know, I wouldn't
Really scare the birds that came.
I'd let them peck around my feet
Til they became quite tame.

JACKO'S WHITE RAT TURNS HIS FACE RED



Jacko and Baby went into Monkeyville to buy a white rat at the pet stores there. Jacko decided that, as a special treat for Baby, they would go home by train. Unfortunately, their rat got out of the box which Jacko held—and leapt on to the lap of the dear old lady in the corner seat. The poor woman turned nearly as white as the rat. And Jacko's face turned red—first, with embarrassment and then from chasing the rat under the seats. Jacko was certainly relieved when that journey ended.

MR PORTLY IS RIGHT AGAIN

It was not until Daddy told Ann to open the window at the end of the conservatory, as well as the roof ventilators, that Miss Parker first climbed inside.

At once she went walking along the wooden staging built half way up the glass walls. She sidled past the tomato plants growing up



their strings, and the sun shone warmly on her through the glass.

"Just the place for a doze," she declared. "I'll fetch Mr. Portly."

But he was doubtful if they ought to go in there.

"What harm can we do?" demanded Miss Parker: "It's easy to weave round the tomato stems without knocking tomatoes off, if that's what you mean?"

"I do," said Mr. Portly. "Anyway, I'll come in and look."

But when he found how pleasant it was to drowse in the sun on the staging, he agreed to stay. And so, whenever the window was open, warm in the sunshine and dry when it rained, the two cats spent hours undisturbed in their glass palace.

Then, one day, a butterfly came in through the roof ventilator. Miss Parker glanced at Mr. Portly. Well she knew he would remind her of Ann's rule: No teasing butterflies. But Mr. Portly was fast asleep.

"Anyway, I won't tease," said Miss Parker. "I only want it to play tag with me." And up she got.

What fun it was! The butterfly skipped around the tomato stems, always just out of reach, and Miss Parker skipped after him, bumping into tomato strings regardless.

Then one, another, and another snapped, and as the third plant fell down Mr. Portly woke up.

"Stop! Just look what you're doing!" he cried. "Now, because you've been disobedient, we won't be allowed here again!"

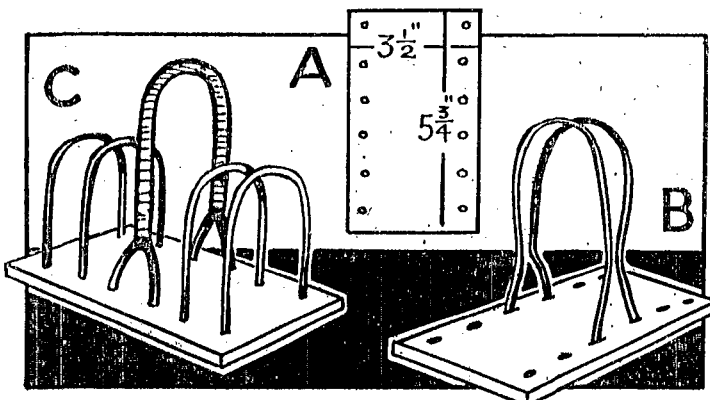
Nor were they. Miss Parker said sadly. "I wish you weren't always right, Mr. Portly!"

JANE THORNICROFT

MAKING A CANE TOAST RACK

HERE is the way to make a fine toast rack. The materials needed are six pieces of cane, a base of plywood (5½ inches by 3½),

it. Bend the two longest canes and pass the ends into the centre holes (as at B); then glue them in position. When the glue has set, bind



glue, and raffia with which to bind the handle. You can get these materials from a handicraft shop.

The cane should be about three-sixteenths-of-an-inch thick. For the handle you need two canes, each 12 inches long; the four other pieces should be eight inches each. The plywood base (A) should have six equally-spaced holes bored in

the two canes together with raffia to form the handle.

Then bend and glue the other four canes into position (C) and leave until firmly set. A coat or two of lacquer gives a good finish to the base and, if coloured raffia is used when binding the handle, the toast rack looks most attractive.

JUST A FEW WORDS

1. A. To elicit is to draw forth. (From Latin *elicere*.)
2. A. Cumulative means increasing by gradual or successive additions. (From Latin *cumulus*, a heap.)
3. B. Transient means short duration; passing. (From Latin *transiens*, going across.)
4. A. Illusory means deceiving by false appearances. (From Latin *illusum*, making game of.)
5. C. To eclipse is to hide wholly or in part; to throw into the shade; to surpass. (From Greek *eclipseis*, failure to appear.)
6. A. Impregnable means something which cannot be taken or is proof against attack. (From Latin *in-*, not, and *prendere*, to take.)

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

Mixed trios. Tar, rat, art.
All green. Greenfingers; greeneyed; Green-sleeves; Greenland; greenhorn.

Pick the dates. Candlemas; St. Valentine's Day; St. David's Day; St. Patrick's Day; All Fools' day; St. Swithin's Day; Halloween.

What am I? A cloud.

Places and people. Sir Walter Scott; John Bunyan; Hans Christian Andersen; Shakespeare; Robert Louis Stevenson.

Twin words. Shore-horse; reed-deer; pea-pape; love-vole; hare-bear; balm-lamb; toga-goat.

Catch question. A ball.

Where are the dogs? Samoyed; dalmatian; albatian; beagle; pointer; pug; borzoi; collie.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER

ODD DICED
RAIR AWE
BAN AGREE
MERGED D
OPREMAS
UREASON
STILL ATE
TEN PET N
SAGES SAD

He prefers to play for England

AFTER playing for Wales in Rugby Union football, Gus Risman turned to Rugby League, and became one of the immortals of the game. His talent is obviously inherited by his son Beverley, 20-year-old geology student at Manchester University.

A schoolboy international and now representing Lancashire at Rugby Union, Beverley is obviously a future senior international. But for which country? Because his father was a Welshman, Beverley qualifies for Wales;

as he was born in England, he is eligible for the English team.

Beverley has now settled the question. Chosen for the recent Welsh trial at Pontypool, he turned down the invitation.

Beverley was strongly fancied to win a cap as fly-half in the Welsh team this year, but he may have to wait longer to win an England cap. Ricky Bartlett and Phil Horrocks-Taylor are established stars in the England team, but Beverley is confident that before long he can replace them.

Stern test for the MCC

AT Sydney this weekend, the M.C.C. tourists begin their match against New South Wales, the most important game of their tour to date. One of the strongest cricketing States, New South Wales have always done well against the tourists from England, and have not lost to the M.C.C. since February 1937. Since then, six matches have been played, resulting in one home victory and five drawn games.

The first of the two matches between the M.C.C. and New South Wales on the previous tour (1954-55) ended in a draw, but was notable for a brilliant batting performance by Colin Cowdrey, who scored a century in each innings. Yet, strangely enough, at that time he had never even achieved a three-figure innings for Kent. When New South Wales batted, W. Watson, one of the opening partners, hit 155. It was only his second first-class innings.

One of the M.C.C. players in that match was W. J. Edrich, captain of Middlesex, and although this great all-rounder is not a member of the present touring team, he is still in the news. A

few weeks ago he announced his retirement from first-class cricket. But he will not be lost to the game, for he has accepted an invitation to captain Norfolk in the Minor Counties League next season.

Edrich left Norfolk as a young man of 21 to join Middlesex. Since that time he has scored 36,965 runs and taken 479 wickets. He also played in 39 Tests.

Bristol's aim is 1000 points

BRISTOL RUGBY CLUB, who have just celebrated their 70th year in first-class rugby, intend to make this a memorable season. It certainly looks as though they will succeed. They recently opened their new £12,000 clubhouse at the Memorial Ground, and so far the team is carrying all before them.

At the start of the present term, one of the club officials predicted that they would score more than 1000 points during the season. (Last season they scored 718 points.) The team have certainly got away to a brilliant start, winning their first 15 matches in succession and scoring 354 points.

In their 13th match this season, Bristol supplied eleven players to the Gloucester and Somerset County match, and had four other men injured. But the team of reserves still managed to win.

This year the club have organised floodlit training sessions at their famous ground.

SPORTS QUIZ

1. What is the correct height for a table tennis top?
2. Can you name the youngest winner of the British Amateur Golf Championship?
3. What is the world record transfer fee for a footballer?
4. How many players has a lacrosse team?
5. Who is the youngest of the M.C.C. cricketers in Australia?
6. Which football team plays at "The Valley"?

6. Charlton Athletic.
5. Roy Swinburn—25 last month.
4. For the Argentinian forward Enrique Sivori.
3. The £90,000 paid by the Italian club Juventus when he won the title in 1956.
2. John Beharrell—18
1. Thirty inches.

SPORTING GALLERY

BILLY LIDDELL

Scottish international footballer Billy Liddell, who recently became a Justice of the Peace, has been an inspiring figure for a long time. War-time flyer, Sunday school teacher, and boys' club leader, he commands admiration in Liverpool off the football field as well as on it.



Dunfermline born, Billy left Lochgelly Violet for Liverpool before the war and became a professional in April 1939. By 1947 he was regarded as the best left-winger in the four home countries and played for Great Britain v. The Rest of Europe. That same year he was a member of Liverpool's League Championship team.

Well-built and with a tremendous shot, he has served his club with success not only at outside-left, but also on the right wing and at centre-forward.

World champion driver

A THRILLING climax to this year's motor racing came when Mike Hawthorn became the first Briton ever to win the world championship. In the last race of the season, at Casablanca, Mike pipped his great friend and rival, Stirling Moss, by one point.

Stirling himself could have won the title—if he had won the race, if he had recorded the fastest lap, and if Mike did not finish second. He succeeded in the first two, but could not prevent Mike from earning the six points awarded to the runner-up.

Mike had his first taste of motor racing in 1947, when he

was 18. But his development into a world star was due partly to an accident. In the winter of 1950 his father, Leslie Hawthorn, suffered from an attack of lumbago and was prevented from driving his car in a meeting at Castle Combe, Wiltshire. Mike took over, and won two of the races at that meeting. He went on to win 14 of the 18 races he entered that year.

Later he drove the Vanwall and B.R.M.s in Grand Prix races, and led the Jaguar sports car team in the 24-hour Le Mans race. His world championship was achieved in an Italian Ferrari.

The 2½-litre Vanwalls and Ferraris, however, will not be seen in action for much longer. From 1961 Grand Prix cars will be limited to 1½-litre engines and will weigh more—so speeds will be reduced.

Twins ride together

Angela and Elinor Monteagle, from Egham, Surrey, are identical twins and they have identical ideas about riding—it's the best fun in the world.



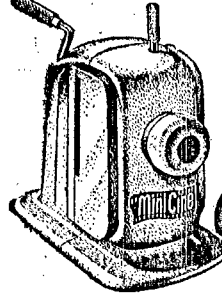
Up the pole

A member of Hermes Athletic Club has some coaching in the pole vault from the international champion, George Broad, at Tooting Bec Athletics Ground, South London.

Youngest champion

A 16-YEAR-OLD schoolboy, Walter Godfrey, recently became the youngest winner of the New Zealand Amateur Golf Championship. Undaunted by the occasion, he beat the 1946 winner, Guy Horne, in the final by two and one.

Xmas Gifts to give you years of fun!



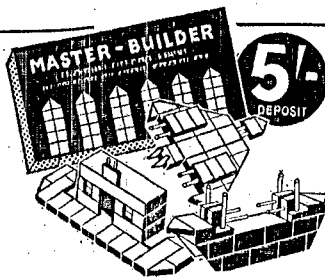
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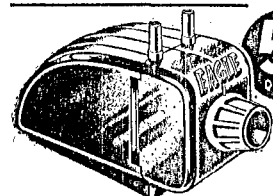
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